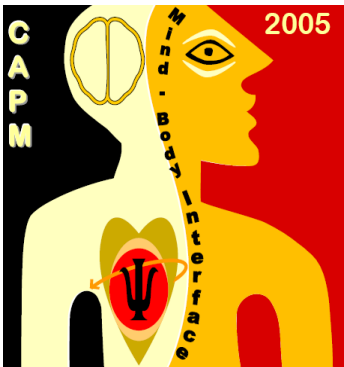


# CAPM Newsletter



Canadian Academy of  
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## CAPM CME Events at the 2008 CPA

- CL update course, Drs Abbey, Chan, Looper, Rodin  
Sept 5, Fri 0910-1210h
- Expert Lecture Series, Dr.  
Mark Sullivan, U. Wash.,  
Sept 6, Sat 0910-1055h
- Distinguished Member's  
Address, Dr. Abbey, Sept. 6,  
Sat 1105-1220h
- Multiply-Addicted HIV,  
HepC Patient symposium,  
Drs. Brouillette, Richford,  
Fitzpatrick. Sept 7, Sun  
1205-1350h

## The Case for Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry as a Subspecialty

The past year has been a busy one for the executive at CAPM. Drs Gagnon (President) and Abbey (Secretary-Treasurer) have valiantly attempted to gain approval from the Royal College's Council of Specialists (COS) in moving forward for Psychosomatic Medicine as a recognized subspecialty, with support from the CPA and the other academies. The Part 1 application was very comprehensive, and clearly made the case for this field as being distinct from general psychiatric practice. It highlighted the organization of Psychosomatic Medicine internationally, as well as the number of fellowship opportunities available abroad. There is

a clear distinction between fellowship training and the recently-mandated 3 month training requirement in Consultation-Liaison (CL) Psychiatry across all residency programs in Canada. Despite the written and oral submission of CAPM's application, it was rejected with the opportunity to apply again in 2 years time. Some of the concerns raised by the COS include the lack of distinction from general psychiatric practice, the possible fragmentation of psychiatric care, and possible insufficient numbers of qualified subspecialists or training sites geographically.

Where do we go from

here? CAPM needs to increase our membership from all regions and clearly identify specific CL training sites for postgraduates. The importance of the liaison role needs to be emphasized, as well as our specific expertise in dealing with the complexities of concomitant medical illnesses. We need to articulate our abilities to enhance quality of care for hospitalized patients, rather than fragment care.

Our strong presence at the CPA in updating our non-CL colleagues is a reflection of the teaching we do. We need your voice in the re-application to the COS, and your support in engaging your colleagues. PC

## CPA Distinguished Member: Dr. Susan Abbey

Dr. Susan Abbey will be giving a keynote address on **Re-Engaging the Body: Advances in Medical Psychiatry**, Sept 6, Sat 1105-1220h as part of the CPA annual meeting. Dr. Abbey is well known in the field of

Psychosomatic Medicine and has helped pioneer Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry as a subspecialty in Canada. She is an associate professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto and the director of the

Medical Psychiatry program at the University Health Network. She is the incoming President of the CPA in 2008 and we are looking forward to Dr. Abbey helping CAPM gain further recognition. PC

## **2008-2009 CAPM Executive and Board**

Dr. Peter Chan, President  
Dr. Susan Abbey, Vice-President and President-Elect  
Dr. Fabien Gagnon, Immediate Past President  
Dr. Louis vanZyl, Secretary-Treasurer and Past President

Dr. Stephen Fitzpatrick, BC Board Member  
Dr. Nathan Schaffer, BC Board Member  
Dr. Nancy Brager, AB Board Member  
Dr. Glendon Tait, ON Member-in-Training Member  
Dr. Annette Granich, QC Board Member  
Dr. Marie-Josée Brouillette, QC Board Member  
Dr. Karl Looper, QC Board Member  
Dr. Mark Bosma, NS Board Member

CAPM (Canadian Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine). is one of the 4 recognized academies by the CPA and comprises mostly of hospital-based Consultation-Liaison psychiatrists across the country. It was founded in 2005. One of its major objectives is working with academic institutions to develop, implement and evaluate standards of training for undergraduates, postgraduates, and psychiatrists in the field of Psychosomatic Medicine.

Membership is \$75 annually. Free for members-in-training

Please join us today!

Email for application: [pechan@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:pechan@interchange.ubc.ca)

## **UPCOMING PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE CME EVENTS**

**ICPM 20TH WORLD CONGRESS. TURIN, ITALY. SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2009**

**AMERICAN PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE 55TH ANNUAL MEETING, MIAMI, FLORIDA. NOVEMBER 19-22, 2008**

**AMERICAN PSYCHOSOMATIC SOCIETY 67TH ANNUAL MEETING, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. MARCH 4-7, 2009**

## **ICPM 19th World Congress Report (Quebec, August 2007)**

The ICPM (International College of Psychosomatic Medicine) was established in 1970 and has scientific meetings every 2 years. The latest one occurred in Quebec in 2007. CAPM executive members Drs Gagnon and vanZyl were on the ICPM's planning committee. Dr. Giovanni Fava, ICPM President, presented a proposal to provide an award of recognition - a certificate, "Specialist in Psychosomatic Medicine," modeled after a similar initiative by the European Society of Hypertension. This would be for the purpose of increasing awareness of ICPM,

boosting membership, and establishing a link with educational activities and courses, including ICPM workshops at other psychosomatic meetings.

It should be noted that certification by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in the field of Psychosomatic Medicine has already existed since 2005, and involves an exam for certification.

The ICPM's general assembly recognized the scientific program was outstanding and that it had received excellent feedback. The assembly gave a hearty round of applause to Drs. van Zyl and

Gagnon for their hard work and achievement of an excellent Congress, and they were given gifts from ICPM as a token of appreciation.

